

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 30446

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ESCAP, VN
SUBJECT: SRV PARTICIPATION IN 20TH SESSION, ESCAP COMMITTEE
ON TRADE

REF: (A) STATE 270084 (B)BANGKOK 30343 (C) BANGKOK 28262

1. IT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES THAT ESCAP EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY MARAMIS IS DEPARTING BANGKOK NOVEMBER 5 TO PARTICIPATE
IN UN BUDGET DISCUSSIONS COMENCING IN NEW YORK NOVEMBER 8.

2. APART FROM ADHERING TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE UN
LEGAL OFFICE REGARDING SRV MEMBERSHIP IN ESCAP, WE BELIEVE
MARAMIS IS MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO DISREGARD THE PAST
AND MOVE TOWARD A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH HANOI BY ASSISTING
THE SRV WITH THEIR REHABILITATION PROBLEMS. THIS VIEW IS SHARED
BY OTHER ESCAP OFFICIALS AND SOME OF THE MEMBER NATIONS IN THE
BELIEF THAT BRINGING THE SRV INTO THE UN UMBRELLA OF SHARING
ESCAP ASSISTANCE WILL, IN THE LONGER RUN MAKE THEM LESS
DEPENDENT UPON THE PRC AND THE SOVIET UNION. IT SHOULD ALSO
BE RECALLED THAT MARAMIS ACCOMPANIED VICTOR UMBRIGHT, CHAIRMAN
OF THE ADVISORY BOARD, MEKONG COORDINATING COMMITTEE, ON
HIS OCTOBER VISITS TO HANOI AND VIENTIANE WHEN THE SRV REQUESTED
ASSISTANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL FARM MACHINERY AND RAILWAYS ROLLING
STOCK.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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